

# Radio Station to Plug Torrance During Special Week

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

## Torrance Herald

SUNDAY  
and  
Thursday

News & Adv. FA 8-4000

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Circulation FA 8-4004

42nd Year—No. 101

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1956

10¢ Per Copy

16 PAGES

# YOUTHS ADMIT ROBBING TORRANCE AREA STORES

## Youthful Pair Admit Hold-Ups

Three robberies, including one here and one in Lomita, were admitted Thursday by two youths arrested in San Pedro, according to Det. Capt. Ernest Ashton.

The pair, Vito Daquisto, 18, of San Pedro, and a 16-year-old Lomita boy, told of gunpoint holdups of the S & S Market at 4505 Torrance Blvd. Sunday, a market at 26344 Western Ave. on Dec. 6 and a Manhattan Beach store last week.

Daquisto was jailed at Manhattan Beach and the Lomita lad was taken to George St. Juvenile Bureau in Los Angeles.

### Officer Struck

Both were nabbed in San Pedro when they threw cards from a presumably stolen wallet from the car in which they were riding. The cards struck a motor officer in the face. He stopped the car and arrested them when he found a .32-caliber revolver in the auto.

Ashton said they confessed to the robberies after the gun tailed with descriptions of the holdup weapons.

### Get-Away Driver

The younger suspect was the gunman in the local and Lomita crimes and the elder drove the get-away car. The arrangement was reversed in Manhattan, according to Ashton.

Authorities quoted the 16-year-old as saying he suggested the robberies to finance his heroin habit and to pay for worthless checks he had passed at a market here.

Local authorities and Manhattan Beach police will jointly seek a two-count robbery complaint against the pair, Ashton declared.

## PTA BUYS LIVE YULE TREE FOR SCHOOL

A real live Christmas tree was presented to the students at Evelyn Carr Elementary School last Friday by the PTA mothers.

Instead of the customary chopped-down tree, the PTA donated a live 10-foot cedar tree which was planted in front of the school cafeteria.

## Baptist Program Set

The choir of the First Baptist Church will present its annual Christmas program at 7:30 tonight under the direction of Mrs. Barbara Bond.

## TV, RADIO STAR GUEST SPEAKER AT BREAKFAST

Details of a week-long promotion of Torrance over radio station KLAC will be outlined for civic leaders, businessmen, and Chamber of Commerce members here Tuesday morning by Armand-La Pointe, noted TV and radio star.

La Pointe will be guest speaker at the December breakfast meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday morning, according to President John Ebbinghouse. The meeting starts at 7:30 a.m. at the YWCA building, Carson St. and Plaza Del Amo, and will adjourn promptly at 8:30 a.m.

The promotion of the city will be carried on KLAC during the week of Feb. 17 through 23 and will coincide with the annual installation dinner meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 20.

City officials and civic leaders will make tape recorded reports during station "breaks" and statistics and information on the city will be broadcast by staff personnel at regular intervals throughout the day. Reservations for Tuesday's breakfast meeting may still be made by calling the Chamber of Commerce at FA 8-2814.

## Yule Burglars Active in City

A replica of Santa Claus was taken by thieves Friday as police noted the usual season upsurge in burglaries and thefts.

A five-foot-tall plywood figurine of St. Nick was taken from a Christmas tree lot at Gramercy St. and Carson St., according to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. George Crabtree, 1753 Gramercy St.

Several score Christmas trees valued at about \$150 were stolen from the Walteria

Mower Service, 24245 Hawthorne Ave., on Friday night, but most were recovered from a shed at the home of Ralph Lyons, 24249 Hawthorne Ave.

Investigators said the thieves hurled the trees through a window in the shed and then made off with a tea table and a cuckoo clock valued at a total of \$115.

Eugene Anderson, 1920 Torrance Blvd., reported that clothing of undetermined value were taken from his car while it was parked in front of his home Friday night. The thieves broke a window to gain entrance.

Chances are that an unknown amount of money and cigars were stolen (Continued on Page Three)

## Crash Injuries Light Despite Fog, Police Say

Despite heavy fog and holiday traffic, police reported only one injury accident during the past few days.

Norman Alterman, 28, of North Hollywood, was taken by Wright's Ambulance to Torrance Emergency Hospital for treatment of a possible back injury. His car was involved with an auto driven by Herbert Kossoff, 34, of Gardena, at 203rd St. and Western Ave. on Wednesday evening.

An hour earlier at the same intersection, a non-injury, three-car crash indirectly resulted in a collision involving a police car and two other autos.

The police car, driven by Officer Don Hartel, was going to the scene when it was involved in a mishap with two other cars at Torrance Blvd. and Llewellyn St. There were no injuries.

## Temperatures

Temperatures dipped below freezing two days last week, according to the main Torrance fire station. Highs and lows for the week were as follows:

	High	Low
Sunday	77	29
Monday	74	30
Tuesday	71	39
Wednesday	74	40
Thursday	73	44
Friday	69	44

## HERALD Will Tell Contest Winners Soon

The four youthful winners of the best letters to Santa Claus in the HERALD's big contest will be announced this Thursday.

Although the flood of entries in the contest closed last Saturday, children may send in letters, which will be published in the HERALD, as space permits.

This Thursday, the four winners of the best letters in four classifications—boys and girls, through the fourth grade, and boys and girls, fifth through eighth grades—will be awarded \$15 merchandise certificates.

## Kesson Says Secession Reports 'Outrageous'

John K. Kesson, president of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn., this week branded stories originating in a Gardena paper as "outrageous" when he was quoted as saying north Torrance may seek to annex to Gardena.

"There's not a bit of truth to it," Kesson told The HERALD after the story was published in the weekly Gardena Tribune and picked up by its companion paper in Torrance.

"I have been interested in only one thing—improving the north Torrance area," Kesson said. He denied that he was planning to call a mass meeting of residents to discuss the matter, and "get their definite reaction," he said.

"I'm just sick," he said in reference to the story.

Kesson told The HERALD he was going to demand a retraction of the statements attributed to him.

The civic leader stated that he had been voicing protests to the city that the north Torrance area had been "short-changed" on a number of items including parks, road work, and other facilities. Some of those protests have

been misquoted in the Gardena press when he avers that the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. favors annexation to Gardena. As representative citizens and members of the North Torrance Civic Assn., we know of no such official sentiment in the association. To the contrary, most sensible citizens appreciate the good work of the present administration and realize

been made publicly before the Torrance City Council.

Denies Secession "But, I would never think of trying to secede and annex to Gardena," Kesson said. "I've lived here for 21 years, and I like Torrance," he stated.

The story published Thursday saying north Torrance may try to secede from the city and join Gardena stirred up a whirlwind of excitement in the area. Scores of persons living in the area denied any such move, and officers of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn., a homeowners' group headed by Kesson, disclaimed any connection with the statements.

City officials expressed a doubt that any such action, even if tried, could be successful. The entire city of Torrance would have to vote approval of the secession, an improbable event, officials pointed out.

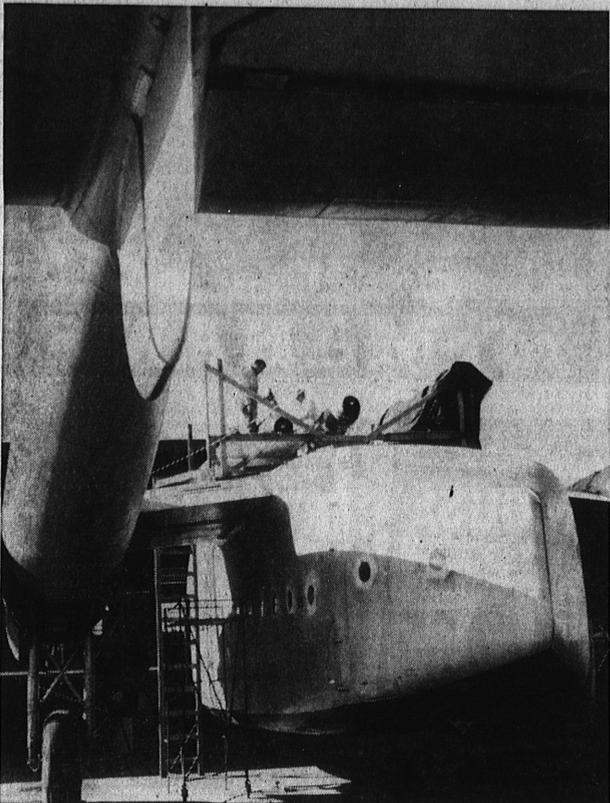
One north Torrance couple, Earl and Thelma Chambers, 16703 Falda Ave., shot off a telegram to the Council as soon as the story broke. It read:

"John Kesson must have been misquoted in the Gardena press when he avers that the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. favors annexation to Gardena. As representative citizens and members of the North Torrance Civic Assn., we know of no such official sentiment in the association. To the contrary, most sensible citizens appreciate the good work of the present administration and realize

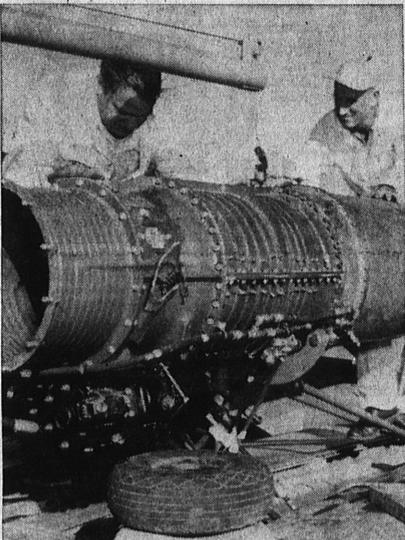
that subject to the availability of funds, and the reasonableness of requests, everything possible is being done for north Torrance."

Kesson said a board meeting of the NTCIA would be called immediately to discuss the matter.

(Continued on Page Three)



GETTING BIGGER PUSH . . . Workmen install two jets on the hull of a C82 cargo plane at Torrance Municipal Airport as a modification of the Flying Boxcar is made to give the huge freight plane an added push for short-field takeoffs and for climbing over mountains.



AN ADDED KICK . . . J. P. Freer (left) and Roger Keeney complete installation of one of the two jet engines being added to a C82 Cargo plane at Torrance Municipal Airport. The jets will augment two conventional engines to give the plane an added boost for short take-offs and to lift them over mountains.

## Jets Add Boost To Cargo Plane

## Small Blazes Occupy Local Firefighters

Several small fires kept Torrance firemen hopping last Thursday and Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roys, 2093 W. 174th, were working with some plastic cement near a heater in their home. The glue ignited, causing second degrees on both, but damage to the house was not serious.

Virginia Burket, 2231 Redbeam Ave., accidentally dropped a match in the floor furnace at her home, causing lint and other material to flare, but damage was not serious.

Another fire in lint was doused by Mrs. William Mainwaring, 18021 Glenburn Ave., with a bucket of water. The blaze was out by the time the firefighters arrived.

Local firemen also battled a blaze in a Pacific Electric pole in the 200 block on Arlington, Friday. There was no damage, except to the pole.

An old C82 Fairchild cargo plane, popularly called the Flying Boxcar, is getting a built-in kick in the pants as the result of a modification program now under way at Torrance Municipal Airport.

Two Westinghouse jet engines, the type used in an early Navy fighter and since declared surplus, are being mounted on the huge cargo plane by personnel of Acme Aircraft Co. and the Steward-Davis Corp. It will be another month before the plane will be flown, officials of the two companies declared.

Installation of the jets on the plane will augment the two Pratt & Whitney radial propeller engines which power the plane. The jets will be used only to make power take-offs on short fields, and to give an additional boost to the craft when flying over mountains.

Fuel consumption rates in the outdated jet engines make their continuous use uneconomical. Many of this type of plane is used by operators to haul cargo in Canada, Alaska, and Latin American countries where aircraft runways are limited.

**7 SHOPPING DAYS TO CHRISTMAS**



KIDDIES AND BIG BOOM-BOOM . . . Members of Miss Jeanne Ardery's kindergarten class at Evelyn Carr Elementary School learn what makes a tank work at a special demonstration held at the school Friday. Members of the Torrance National Guard brought out a tank, bridge

trucks, a 105 mm Howitzer, and other arms for demonstration. Here, Sgt. Leonard Sylvia operates the big Walker Bulldog tank, as Sgt. Richard Galtner explains its operation. Both men are members of the 111th Reconnaissance Battalion.